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Letter dated 16 February 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward, enclosed herewith, the letter of Mr. Goran Svilanović, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, of 16 February 2001 relative to the latest atrocity committed by Albanian terrorists in Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia, addressed to you (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Mladenović**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 16 February 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia condemns most strongly the latest wave of terrorist violence and the massacre committed against civilians by Albanian extremists in Kosovo and Metohija. It is obvious that Albanian terrorists react with escalation of force to the constructive and consistent commitment of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the solution of all problems in a peaceful way.

According to the data available so far, today, 16 February 2001, at 11.15 hours, one of five KFOR-escorted buses ferrying Serbs on the Merdare-Podujevo road ran into an anti-tank mine (probably with a remote-control mechanism) planted by Albanian terrorists near the village of Livadice. On that occasion, at least 7 Serbs were killed and over 40 were wounded, including women and children.

Particularly worrying is the fact that the victims of this deliberate and apparently premeditated attack were citizens travelling home to their village of Strpce within the programme of return of displaced persons from Kosovo and Metohija. The atrocity took place in the presence of KFOR members charged with providing security to the convoy.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia calls on KFOR and the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) to react energetically and without delay in accordance with resolution 1244 (1999) and their mandate and to ensure full personal safety and basic human rights to all residents of Kosovo and Metohija. It is necessary that, in line with the responsibilities invested by the Security Council, the head of UNMIK and the Commander of KFOR take measures to bring about true disarmament in Kosovo and Metohija, a prerequisite for preventing further terrorist acts. At the same time, we demand that guilt be ascertained and the perpetrators punished forthwith.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia calls for the convening of an urgent meeting of the Security Council that would condemn the escalation of violence in Kosovo and Metohija and take concrete measures for an effective implementation of resolution 1244 (1999), the protection of civilians and for putting an end to the continued atrocities in Kosovo and Metohija.

(*Signed*) Goran **Svilanović**